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## Reagan Vetoes Sanctions

### House, Senate Are Expected to Override Action

By David Hoffman  
WASHINGTON Post Service  
WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan, saying that the United States cannot "turn its back and walk away" from South Africa, has vetoed legislation that would impose new economic sanctions against Pretoria. The action set the stage for a major foreign policy confrontation with Congress.

Mr. Reagan, in his veto message, said, "The sweeping and punitive sanctions adopted by the Congress are targeted directly at the labor-intensive industries upon which the victimized people of South Africa depend for their very survival. Black workers — the first victims of apartheid — would become the first victims of American sanctions."

Congress approved the sanctions by overwhelming bipartisan margins in an effort to pressure South Africa to end apartheid. White House and congressional sources said Mr. Reagan lacked the votes needed to sustain the veto either in the House or the Senate, where a showdown is expected this week. A two-thirds vote in both chambers is needed to override a veto.

White House officials withheld release of Mr. Reagan's veto message until after the network television news broadcast Friday night, a tactic often used to minimize news media attention to politically unpopular announcements.

Mr. Reagan faces opposition from key leaders of both parties, including Senator Richard G. Lugar, Republican of Indiana and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

White House officials said the president was expected to announce additional measures affecting South Africa this week. The measures, which are designed to head off a veto override, may include a milder set of sanctions, a \$300-million regional aid package and a visit to southern Africa by Secretary of State George P. Shultz.

Officials have said that the president intends to name the first black U.S. ambassador to South Africa but that the nomination is being postponed until after the veto override vote. The prospective nominee is Edward J. Perkins, U.S. ambassador to Liberia.

Mr. Reagan devoted his veto message to the veto.

See VETO, Page 6



Christian fighters loyal to Elie Hobeika, removed as Lebanese Forces militia leader in January, making the first attack across the Green Line into East Beirut in the civil war.

## Christian Rebels Enter East Beirut

### In Attack but Are Repelled by Army

United Press International  
BEIRUT — The Lebanese Army thwarted an attempt Sunday by pro-Syrian militia to storm the defenses of Lebanon's Christian heartland, sources said.

It was the second attack in two days on the Christian-controlled area. On Saturday, fighters led by Christian opponents of the mainstream Maronite Catholic militia crossed the Green Line into East Beirut for the first time in 11 years of civil war.

The sources said army units, dug in along the Upper Metn mountain northeast of Beirut, opened fire Sunday with tanks and heavy artillery on pro-Syrian militiamen who tried to break through the front line again.

The troops, loyal to President Amin Gemayel, pounded the advancing attackers for half an hour and forced them to pull back and stop their attempt, the sources said.

The army command made no official statement on Sunday's attack on the Christian enclave, which stretches from the hills southeast of Beirut more than 25 miles (40 kilometers) to the north.

A militia statement in Christian East Beirut, the Lebanese Forces, said that it had captured several pro-Syrian fighters who had hidden in a East Beirut until late Sunday after failing to withdraw to the Western side.

A militia statement said several Muslim fundamentalists were among those captured. It said they had taken part in the attempt

## Tax Reform Passes Senate, Goes to Reagan

By Anne Swanson  
WASHINGTON Post Service  
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Senate, capping an extraordinary drive, has given final congressional approval to a bill that would sharply cut tax rates and limit or repeal many widely used tax deductions. The bill, one of the broadest revisions of the tax system since Congress created it in 1913, was approved Saturday, 74-23.

The legislative struggle was a difficult one, facing strong opposition from special-interest groups concerned about losing tax breaks. President Ronald Reagan, who made tax reform his top domestic priority, called the bill "fairer, simpler for most people, one that encourages growth and that is pro-family."

He said he would sign the bill as soon as it reached his desk. The Senate still must approve an accompanying package of technical corrections to the bill, an action expected within a few days.

The bill, approved Thursday by the House of Representatives, 292-136, would cut the top tax rate for individuals to 35.5 percent for income earned in 1987.

In subsequent years, there would be statutory rates of 15 percent and 28 percent, plus a third effective rate of 33 percent for some affluent households.

Corporations would pay an estimated \$120 billion more in taxes by 1991, and the revenue gained would be used to reduce individual income taxes by 1.6 percent in 1987 and by 6.1 percent in 1988.

Six million people in the lowest income category would be removed from the tax rolls by a higher standard deduction and personal exemption. The rate cuts also would help some people now in the highest tax brackets.

The tax bill was generally welcomed by members of both parties. "Taxes are about more than money," said the Senate Finance Committee chairman, Bob Packwood, Republican of Oregon.

"They are about more than economics. They are about fairness, and this is fair."

Senator Bill Bradley, Democrat of New Jersey, an early advocate of tax revision, said, "I'd say this is the most significant tax bill since 1954, and maybe since 1913."

But even as they debated the bill, legislators in both chambers were

See TAX, Page 6

## Deng Shifts Ideology

### Back to Center Stage

By Daniel Southard  
WASHINGTON Post Service  
BEIJING — China's leaders, seized the initiative on the ideological front Sunday, using their critics' slogans to their own advantage in a new campaign to restore socialism to their economic changes.

A Communist Party Central Committee meeting passed a major resolution dealing with socialist culture and ethics, or "socialist spiritual civilization."

The document said the right-point, 9,600-character document provided an ideological justification for continuing the rural and urban economic transformation initiated over the past seven years by Deng Xiaoping, China's paramount leader.

The document strongly reflects Mr. Deng's pragmatic approach to modernization but also addresses some of his critics' concerns over the need to counter what they regard as negative Western influences entering China as a result of its policy of opening up to the outside world.

Until recently, it was Mr. Deng's critics who used "spiritual civilization" as their rallying cry. But in a summer typical of Mr. Deng, he and his allies went to the opposite extreme, attacking the critics' main issue — ideology — for their own ideology.

It is in the area of ethics and ideology that Mr. Deng and his colleagues have often appeared to be most vulnerable. The current

preoccupation with economic gains has led many people to ignore ideology. Some even say that the Chinese have been facing an ideological vacuum.

The new document advocates both Marxism and flexibility. It says that it would be wrong to regard Marxism as a "rigid dogma" but also wrong to negate basic Marxist principles.

China began a drive to counter reactionism to family planning in rural areas, Page 2.

sets and to build a socialist Westerner philosophies and social doctrines.

The section of the document that is devoted to Marxism seems to be addressed in particular to young Chinese who have lost faith in the Communist political system. It says in effect that the Communist Party is willing to be flexible but cannot simply drop Marxism and become young Chinese would like.

The document rejects the idea of "putting money above all else" in life, an idea that some young Chinese have embraced. But it defends Deng Xiaoping's idea of letting some people become prosperous first, before the objective of common prosperity is achieved.

It says that China should reject all that is "ugly and decadent" in capitalism, including what the authors of the resolution call "oppression and exploitation." But it also

See CHINA, Page 2

## Soviet Shows Test Site to Foreigners

By Robert Evans  
Moscow  
GEGEN HILLS, U.S.S.R. — The Soviet Union has opened parts of its main nuclear test site in these barren Central Asian granite hills to the first known inspection by foreigners.

A small group of journalists from the West and Japan as well as reporters from the Eastern bloc were shown the site's tunnels and facilities. They viewed one shaft that had been prepared 14 months ago for an explosion.

Soviet officials who accompanied the party over the weekend made it clear that the visit had been arranged to reinforce Moscow's ap-

## Coalition Is Acceptable, German Greens Decide

By James M. Markham  
New York Times Service  
NÜRNBERG — Four months before national elections, the anti-establishment Greens party concluded a chaotic congress Sunday with something resembling a victory of its pragmatic wing over its visionary and Marxist-Leninist factions.

The rather murky triumph of the "Realos" — realists among the Greens who favor directing their energies by assuming governmental responsibilities in coalition with the Social Democratic Party — occurred at midnight Saturday as its

lights were being turned out in a vast convention center.

After rejecting with hand-flashed green banners a score of establishment Greens party candidates, including several that would have effectively excluded a coalition in Bonn with the Social Democrats, the delegates seemed to narrowly approve one that left the door ajar to cooperation if the two opposition parties emerged with a "mathematical majority" in the Bundestag on Jan. 25.

As dogs and children muddled through the darkening hall, a young woman announced that there were "about 150 to 160" votes and "156 to 180 no votes."

That equivocal outcome prompted some rear-guard parliamentary machinations by the "Fundis," or anti-coalition fundamentalists.

But a second count produced a count of 230 yes to 190 no. For this second vote, extra delegates from the anti-coalition realists, whose hawkers were pushing the causes of the African National Congress, anti-apartheid, Iranian factions, homosexuals and the Sudans, whose youthful West German representatives offered Nicaragua coffee at non-alcoholic prices.

The balloting was a landmark on the way to political realism for the seven-year-old Greens, who say they want to join West Germany out of NATO and abolish atomic energy overnight. The allure of power, and the need to explain to a skeptical electorate what the Greens are going to do with the votes they are demanding, has subtly tipped the balance from the "Fundis" to the "Realos" camp.

Fundamentalists didn't like the preoccupation with the Social Democratic Party, or SPD. "The

See GREENS, Page 6



A Russian officer testing water for radioactivity Sunday near a nuclear test tunnel.

## Nakasone's Gaffe: A Japanese View

By John Burgess  
Washington Post Service  
TOKYO — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's observation in a speech on Sept. 22 that the level of education and intelligence in the United States is low because of its large black and Hispanic populations almost passed unnoticed here.

Some of Japan's nationally circulated newspapers made no mention of the remark. Those that did generally reported it in inside-page columns that chronicled off-beat or humorous developments in the political world.

In the view of many Japanese, Mr. Nakasone was simply talking common sense, saying that ethnic diversity creates confusion and discord. From their perspective, he was saying that society functions best when people look, think and act alike, as they do in Japan.

The uproar that the prime minister's words caused the next day in

the United States forced Japan to sit up and pay attention.

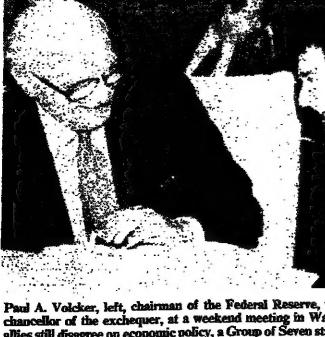
Facing angry speeches in Congress and calls for a boycott of Japanese products, Mr. Nakasone formally acknowledged Friday that

"We are not accustomed to living together with other races."

— Tadashi Yamamoto, Japan Center for International Exchange

he had offended many Americans and issued a "heartfelt apology."

His gesture appeared to cool things off, but it did little to close the gap in racial perceptions that permanently divides the two coun-



Paul A. Volcker, left, chairman of the Federal Reserve, with Nigel Lawson, British chancellor of the exchequer, at a weekend meeting in Washington. The U.S. and its allies still disagree on economic policy, a Group of Seven statement conceded, Page 15.





## Bill to Deter Illegal Immigrants Fails in U.S. House, 202-180

**New York Times Service**  
WASHINGTON — A year-long effort to pass a law to deter illegal immigration failed in the U.S. House of Representatives today, 202-180.

The House vote was a narrow one, with 202 in favor and 180 opposed. The bill, which would have imposed a \$500 fine on employers who knowingly hired illegal aliens, was defeated by a vote of 202-180.

By a vote of 202-180, the House defeated Friday a resolution to bring the bill to the floor. The resolution was passed by a vote of 145-133.

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## Democrats Fashion a Show of Reagan's Veto Tactic

**By Sidney Blumenthal**  
**Washington Post Service**  
WASHINGTON — For years, the Democrats have been routinely outmaneuvered in the war of political symbolism by President Ronald Reagan. On Friday, the Democrats tried to gain the upper hand, however briefly, on the issue of South Africa.

With Mr. Reagan's veto of the South African sanctions bill due Friday evening, the Democrats felt that the president was about to commit an act widely regarded as a major blunder. At last, they hoped, they could score — and score they did.

The White House public relations team, for its part, hoped that if the president waited to issue his veto statement until well past the hour for the television evening news, the issue might fade unnoted into the weekend. But the president's maneuver backfired. Not only did the news feature Mr. Reagan's expected South Africa decision, but Dan Rather, the anchorman on the CBS Evening News, pointedly said: "The president seeks to avoid as much newspaper and television coverage as possible."

The Democratic public relations effort to make prime-time coverage unavoidable was a 24-hour guerrilla operation, usually put together by a small group of Capitol Hill staff members, with the approval of their superiors. On a day's notice, they constructed a protest that seemed eerily arranged. The Democratic schedule was there to expose Reagan. From the Senate came Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts; Paul Simon of Illinois,

Alton Cason of California and Donald W. Riegle Jr. of Michigan. From the House, along with dozens of others, came Mickey Leland of Texas, Ronald W. D. Dorn of California and William R. Gray Jr. of Pennsylvania.

The podium was stationed on the Capitol steps at the peak of what is commonly called "TV Triangle," a spot where a group of any size appears to be a crowd scene, with the Capitol dome as a backdrop. Two American flags flanked the Democrats, who stood behind a large banner.

"I want a firewall. I want the story to be a reaction to Reagan — the reaction should be the lead. Who should I call? Kennedy?" — Christopher Matthews, congressional aide

reading "Congress Against Apartheid." And 17 television cameras whirled away.

The event began the morning before, in the office of the California Democratic Delegation, in the House Annex. Pamela Barry, the associate director, and Deborah E. McFarland, the executive director, were waiting the singer Paul Simon's new album, "Graceland," which protests South African apartheid. Then they started talking about Mr. Reagan's anticipated veto. Why not an "Anthem?"

"We started making telephone calls," said Mrs. Barry. The first was to Representative Don Edwards, the California delegation's chairman, who gave his approval. "We just called everybody involved in the leadership of this issue," said Mrs. McFarland.

By 4 P.M. Thursday, Mr. Edwards had spoken on the House floor with Mr. Leland, leader of the Black Caucus, and called the speaker's office. Ellen Boyle, Mr. Leland's aide, soon turned up at the desk of Christopher Matthews, the speaker's press secretary.

"I want a firewall. I want the story to be a reaction to Reagan — the reaction should be the lead. Who should I call? Kennedy?" — Christopher Matthews, congressional aide

Friday morning, Mrs. Barry and Mrs. McFarland went to Mr. Edwards's office to pick up an American flag. "I called the sergeant at arms," said Mrs. McFarland, "and he said we could bring it. We hope this will put the brakes on the Great Communicator."

They arrived at the "TV Triangle" at 11 A.M., an hour early. Just before noon, the Democratic spokesmen moved like a single body toward the massed microphones and cameras. The demonstrations of Mr. Reagan's policy went on for almost an hour.

By Friday night, even before the White House announced the veto, the television networks were broadcasting the Democratic response.

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## U.S. Senate Bars Army in Drug Fight

**By Helen Dewar**  
**Washington Post Service**  
WASHINGTON — The Senate has rejected a proposal that the armed forces be deployed to combat drug smuggling but has indicated support for the imposition of the death penalty for major drug traffickers.

The action came Saturday as Republicans and Democratic leaders joined in an attempt to pass an anti-drug bill without the controversial provisions approved earlier by the House of Representatives.

The proposal to use the military in drug interdiction was rejected 74-14 after Senator Sam Nunn, Georgia Democrat, attacked it at length in scathing terms.

Mr. Nunn, the senior Democrat on the Armed Services Committee, contended that the proposal could divert the entire U.S. military force to the job of sealing the borders against drug traffic.

The Senate considered a series of amendments to the drug bill under a bipartisan leadership strategy of forcing all proposals from left and right to secure final passage before Congress adjourns early next month.

Senator Alan J. Dixon, an Illinois Democrat, brought up the military deployment proposal.

The proposal would have required the president to use military equipment and personnel to police the nation's borders against drug traffic.

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## An Unpopular Veto

## No Exit From Lebanon

**Other Comment**

HOW NAME YOU THIS TAX REFORM?

GEE—I DUNNO... DAN? BOB?

PERHAPS DANNY BOB WOULD BE NICE

IS IT TOO LATE TO STOP THE WEDDIN'?

WE HAVE SPECIAL INTERESTS

Ollie Johnson

## This Is the Week for a New Development Agenda

## ***Europe's Farm Policy: An Extravagant Boomerang***

## When Allies Fall Out, the Alliance Can Fall Apart

## Green Light For Chinese, More or Less

**Self-Indulgence  
And in the Ad**  
By George

Due to come  
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the A320 sets new  
with Fujik

forces of General Francisco Franco.



OPINION

# Self-Indulgence on the Hill And in the Administration

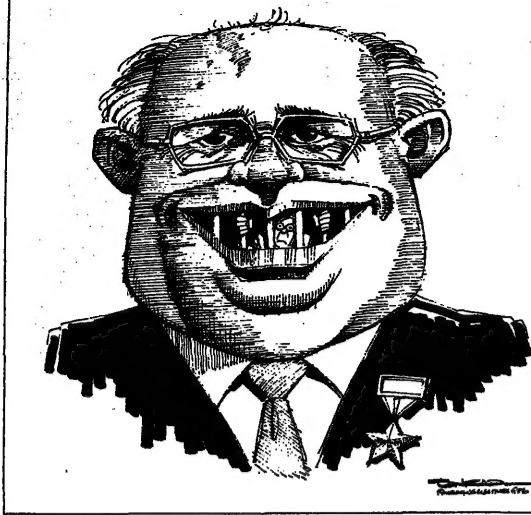
By George F. Will

WASHINGTON — If the disposition of the U.S. Congress is any indication, the administration is indulging in self-indulgence. Congress is being praised for a tax reform bill the contents of which are as good as a blank check to the Treasury. The House is being praised for a bill that would allow the Treasury to raise taxes on the wealthy. The Senate is being praised for a bill that would allow the Treasury to raise taxes on the wealthy. The administration is being praised for a bill that would allow the Treasury to raise taxes on the wealthy.

## Where was Shultz when Reagan was wrapping himself in Gramscian-Rudman, as in the flag?

Is indulgence in domestic policy analogous to what the executive branch has done in the Nicholas Daniloff affair. The Congress has been praised for its handling of the Daniloff case. The administration is being praised for its handling of the Daniloff case. The Congress has been praised for its handling of the Daniloff case. The administration is being praised for its handling of the Daniloff case.

It was self-indulgence of the administration to set a dangerous precedent recently to satisfy its understandable desire for Mr. Daniloff to have a "normal consular environment." The administration's self-indulgence is a dangerous precedent. The administration's self-indulgence is a dangerous precedent. The administration's self-indulgence is a dangerous precedent.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Gorbachev Is No Stalin

Regarding the opinion column "Dmitriy Case Harms Gorbachev's Image" (Sept. 13) by Marshall T. Goldman: Professor Goldman is so consumed by the Daniloff case and so obviously biased that he appears to be using the occasion to unfairly attack Mikhail Gorbachev. Does he honestly believe that the case will harm the Soviet leader's image? The irony is that while he is writing his column, the Daniloff-Zakharov case was going through the first stages of resolution.

Professor Goldman should contribute some recognition to Mr. Gorbachev's continuous efforts for improved U.S.-Soviet relations and world peace. Describing him as a "throwback to Stalin" was harsh and misleading. ANDREAS FARMAKIS, Athens.

### Different but Not Dumb

Bravo to Charles Krauthammer for "Rendezvous with the 'Stupidity' of the Kremlin Tough Guy" (Sept. 20). The

sooner the United States starts to see past the ill or odd cast of Communist cloths, the wiser will be U.S. policy decisions regarding Soviet strategy. The United States cannot afford to be lax or lighthearted regarding these adventures, and adversaries they remain. J.H. BATUSHANSKY FISHMAN, Jerusalem.

### The Future of Hong Kong

In her column "On China's Hopes for Hong Kong" (Sept. 20), Flora Lewis writes: "The case of the deal with Britain was that key parts of the territory were held on leases from China that expired in 1997. It has been agreed that the leases will be renewed for 50 more years, to 2047, with half the proceeds going into a development fund." Britain's lease expires in 1997, at which time Hong Kong is Chinese real estate. The Chinese-British agreement has made possible the extension of old land leases for 50 more years and the initiation of new ones. Since all land in the colony is crown land, it is the Hong

Kong government that leases or releases land, and the government has agreed that half the proceeds from its regularly held land auctions will go into a development fund during the transition to Chinese sovereignty. PATRICK J. SMITH, Hong Kong.

### Over the Borders of Humor

Art Buchwald owes an apology to Mexico. In his ironic comments (Sept. 14) on the Pentagon's war on drugs he writes: "The case of the deal with Britain was that key parts of the territory were held on leases from China that expired in 1997. It has been agreed that the leases will be renewed for 50 more years, to 2047, with half the proceeds going into a development fund." Britain's lease expires in 1997, at which time Hong Kong is Chinese real estate. The Chinese-British agreement has made possible the extension of old land leases for 50 more years and the initiation of new ones. Since all land in the colony is crown land, it is the Hong

# The Last Chance: Old Maids Obtain a Statistical Reprieve

By Ellen Goodman

BOSTON — Have your parents been reading your e-mail messages that read: Sweetheart, you aren't getting any younger? Did the creep down the hall tell you last night that he might be your very last chance? Did one of your mar-

ried friends suggest that maybe it was time to place an ad — very discreet, of course — in the personals column? If so, you are suffering the long-term effects of fallout from The Study. You know which one we mean.

By 30 years of age, The Study projects, a never-married woman had only a 20 percent chance of marrying. At 35, she had a 5 percent chance. At 40, the odds fell even lower. At 45, the odds were so low that she was "more likely to be killed by a terrorist." (A fate that we might wish on the writers.)

The results of The Study, announced as the Harvard-Yale Study, were carried through the United States on wings of ill-will as swiftly as radioactive debris from Chernobyl. They fell silently all over the population and settled into the marrow of women in their 30s. Since then, the singles set has been glowing with anxiety. Say it isn't so.

"Why does this happen? Somebody say it isn't so. The figures looked funny to several people in the Census Bureau, including Jean Moorman. Unlike the great wedding mathphobias among us, Miss Moorman is an analyst of marriage and family statistics. She did not gneu-

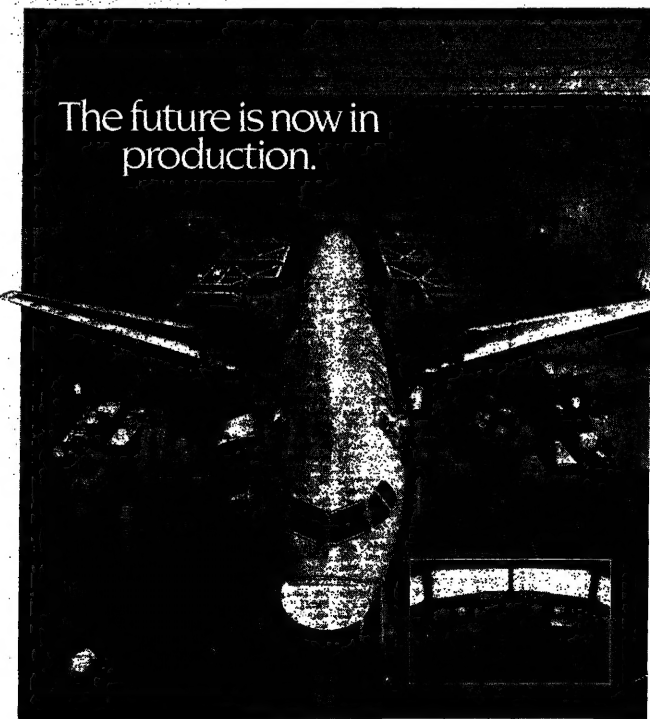
satistic, economic and cultural reasons, should be fashioning a "good neighbor" policy. It is not even funny. JENN A. JOERGENSEN, Brussels.

## Two Standards for Animals

I admire environmentalists working to achieve endangered species like the rhinoceros. The opposition to the killing of pilot whales in the Pacific Islands, however, is an example of ignorance and double standards. "Is the Farmer, End of the Whaling Myth" (Sept. 17) Animals

and whales are killed in a dangerous or on the shores of the Pacific Islands. The killing of pilot whales is not a pretty sight, but far too often, environmentalists are narrow-minded and emotional, putting animals before people and cultural patterns. The vicious campaign against the whaling tradition of whale killing is deplorable and a typical example of cultural imperialism. To be civilized, it is really necessary to start eating lamb chops.

LARS BREDO RAHBEK, Manila.



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"Time demands the rise of the supreme power in the world which can eliminate terrorism and create positive control over the destructive capability of the superpowers, which has been keeping mankind under constant fear for decades. Our programme to create world peace will promote the rise of this supreme power—the invisible, evolutionary power of natural law—in world consciousness and free mankind from fear." —Maharishi

## Efforts of 3,000 Years to Create World Peace

It is obvious to everyone that all meant employed by man so far to achieve world peace have failed. Since 1000 B.C. there have been over 8,000 peace treaties, and each one lasted on average no more than nine years. The League of Nations was founded in 1920 to ensure that World War I was "the war to end all wars." Twenty years later World War II erupted. The United Nations was established in 1945 to end war and conflict between nations once and for all. Since then there have been more than 150 wars. It is clear that political negotiations, treaties, and use of arms have never and can never create a lasting state of world peace.

## The Responsibility of the Individual

World peace was rightly considered to be the responsibility of governments. That is why traditionally it has not been the practice of individuals to take the initiative for world peace. Today the situation is different. With the onset of terrorism, governments are not succeeding in providing safety and security to life in any part of the world. Even the superpowers themselves are constantly in fear, and the dangerous rivalry between them is changing the life of everyone on earth. Now it is time for the responsible individuals in the world to wake up and take the responsibility for creating and maintaining world peace.

# MAHARISHI'S PROGRAMME TO CREATE WORLD PEACE

ELIMINATING THE BASIS OF TERRORISM AND WAR WITHOUT LOSS OF LIFE Raising U.S. \$100 Million to Ensure World Peace

"With the onset of terrorism, world peace is the personal and immediate requirement of our civilization and the world peace and it must be fulfilled today, without waiting for tomorrow." —Maharishi

## Maharishi's Principle to Create World Peace

Peace is secured in the orderly evolution of life. Orderly evolution requires unrestricted progress which flows on the ground of coherence. The principle to create world peace is to create coherence in world consciousness. Only an indomitable strength of coherence in world consciousness will prevent the rise of stress in the world. This will root out terrorism without loss of life. This alone will eliminate the basis of crime, conflict, and war, and will gracefully bring to an end the dangerous rivalry of the superpowers.

Coherence in world consciousness can be produced only by creating coherence in individual brain physiology. This is achieved through the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field—Transcendental Meditation, its advanced techniques, and the TM-Sidhi programme.

This technology identifies the individual creativity of the human mind with the cosmic creativity of natural law. It cultivates the human mind to operate from the self-interacting dynamics of the unified field of all the laws of nature, which is the source and governor of all values in the universe. Because the unified field has the character of infinite correlation, an impulse of coherence generated from this level instantly harmonizes discordant tendencies throughout the environment.

## 7,000 to Create World Peace

Scientific research has shown that 7,000 individuals (the square root of one percent of the world's population) practicing the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field together in one place create a powerful influence of coherence in the whole world consciousness, producing a spawse of positive trends and tendencies in life everywhere. With this technology world peace is only a matter of maintaining a group of 7,000 to daily create coherence in world consciousness. With this formula in our possession, world peace is now only a matter of money to maintain the group of 7,000. Seven thousand experts practicing the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field together can be trained and maintained in India with the annual income from a fund of 100 million dollars.

The Maharishi World Peace Fund The Maharishi World Peace Fund has been established to raise this amount to create and maintain world peace. The leaders and the wealthy, who have the real well-being of humanity at heart, are invited to examine closely Maharishi's principles and support the programme to create world peace. By establishing the Maharishi World Peace Fund today, they can fulfill their responsibility of bringing peace to the world and thereby ensure tomorrow for all mankind.

"There are hundreds of organizations for peace all over the world. People are trying to create world peace from various different levels of approach. Our expectation is that every effort that is being made for world peace.

"However, only a new seed will yield a new crop. Only a new philosophy and new efforts based on new knowledge will fulfill the age-old dream of the wise for world peace.

"Our approach to world peace is holistic and most basic. It is from that most basic level of nature's functioning, the unified field of natural law, where eternal silence itself is the lively basis of the eternal dynamics of the universe—the self-interacting dynamics of the unified field of natural law—where peace unfolds dynamism. That is why peace created from this level will be powerful, and power on earth will be peaceful."

Please address inquiries about Maharishi's Programme to Create World Peace to the Maharishi World Peace Fund to: Maharishi World Peace Fund 6063 NP Vlodrop The Netherlands

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The Airbus A320 is the only new 150 seat aircraft in production. It's also the first subsonic airliner to use 'fly by wire' computer signalled controls and it leads the way in the application of weight saving composite materials. The flight deck of the A320 sets new standards of efficiency with fully digital avionics and interactive CRT displays keeping the pilot in touch with every aspect of the aircraft's performance. Already over 260 commitments have been made for the incredible A320. It just goes to prove, while the others talk, Airbus builds.





## In Poland, Conflicting Signals

Along With Amnesty, a Call for Detention of Dissenters

By Michael T. Kaufman  
New York Times Service

**WARSAW** — While General Wojciech Jaruzelski has welcomed recently released political prisoners to what he called "responsible" public life, the Polish Communist Party has called for the administrative detention, without trial, of dissidents deemed harmful by the authorities.

These somewhat contradictory signals reflect a desire to navigate policy through the conflicting concerns of the authorities, supporters of Solidarity, the Roman Catholic Church, Western creditors and the Warsaw Pact allies.

When the government announced Sept. 11 that it would free the opposition forces who remained in prison, the move was applauded by Pope John Paul II and Western governments. But at a briefing for Soviet-bloc diplomats on the amnesty, aggressive questions were asked — some said loudly by the Czechoslovaks and the East Germans — about whether Poland was about to countenance a *de facto* opposition.

In addition, some Polish security officials were reportedly disconcerted by the release of people whose capture, interrogation and persecution had taken so much of their time and effort.

Party sources said those opposing the amnesty had been placed under a ban on unauthorized direct or indirect contact with anyone no longer held for full-fledged trials that would attract world attention.

Instead, the party said, they should be processed in half-hour administrative hearings on misdemeanor charges. This was the practice in the 1970s, when defendants often received a sentence of six months, sometimes adding up to years in jail.

Generally, government officials have tried to offer declarations of a new beginning and renewed channels of dialogue and assertions of continuing vigilance and retention of decision-making power in party hands.



Zbigniew Bujak, the former underground leader of Solidarity, thanking Cardinal Jozef Glemp at St. Martin's Church in Warsaw for the efforts of the church to aid political prisoners. Mr. Bujak was released from prison Sept. 8.

The message is that from discussion will be tolerated but that there will be no return to the days before 1981 when a government buffeted by strikes accepted independent labor unions.

The two approaches were evident in a speech General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, made recently in Zielona Gora.

"No one in our country will be discriminated against for his or her convictions," he said. "Every citizen's voice should be heard, regardless of its source, if it is accompanied by a patriotic intention, a feeling of responsibility and respect for constitutional principles."

Such statements appeared to be intended as positive responses to

## Bonn Foils Plan to Rush Refugees into West Berlin

Reuters

**BONN** — West Germany appears to have thwarted an attempt to rush 27,000 Third World refugees into West Berlin on a route through Eastern Europe, the Foreign Ministry said Sunday.

A spokesman said the plan had involved ferrying 600 bus loads of asylum-seekers, mostly from Turkey to Bulgaria and from there to West Berlin.

Bulgarian and Polish diplomats in Bonn were called to the Foreign Ministry on Saturday and asked to help stem the flow in the interests of good relations, the spokesman said.

Bulgarian authorities told authorities in Bonn later Saturday that the first bus loads had been turned back at the Turkish frontier and that refugees would not be allowed to cross Bulgarian territory unless they had valid West German entry visas, he said.

Sources said the plan was aimed at bringing the refugees into West Berlin before Wednesday, when East Germany will stop issuing transit visas to refugees without entry permits for their final destinations.

They said the refugees were to have been taken by bus to Saxony to catch special airline flights to East Berlin or Warsaw, from where they would have taken trains to the West.

More than half the 77,000 refugees who have sought political asylum in West Germany this year have flown first to East Berlin's Schoenefeld airport with East German transit visas and have then crossed through the Berlin Wall.

After pressure from Bonn, East Germany announced Sept. 18 that it would stop issuing the transit visas starting next Wednesday unless refugees had entry permits for their final destinations.

### Herald Tribune

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Luxembourg	L.F.	10,700	5,350	3,200
Norway	Nkr.	1,600	800	500
Portugal	B.	19,000	9,500	5,700
Spain	Pes.	26,500	13,250	8,000
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United States	\$	400	200	120
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## Kinnoch Rebuffs U.S. On N-Arms

Reuters

**BLACKPOOL, England** — Neil Kinnoch, the British Labour Party leader, has rejected a demand of his plan to scrap nuclear weapons and close U.S. nuclear bases.

Certainly, he said, he would not support a plan to scrap nuclear weapons and close U.S. nuclear bases.

He was responding to remarks made by the U.S. ambassador in London, Robert W. McFarlane, on Saturday, that the U.S. would not consider a unilateral nuclear disarmament.

There is likely to be heated debate in Blackpool on Sunday, when the party's annual conference will open.

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He was responding to remarks made by the U.S. ambassador in London, Robert W. McFarlane, on Saturday, that the U.S. would not consider a unilateral nuclear disarmament.

## East Germany Said to Step Up Guard On West's Envoys and Watch Libyans

By Robert J. McCartney  
Washington Post Service

**BERLIN** — East Germany has stepped up its guard on West German envoys and is watching Libyans closely, according to Western diplomats.

East Germany's Communist authorities took the steps, probably with Soviet backing, after the Libyan socialist revolutionaries were linked to the terrorist bombing on April 5 of a discotheque in West Berlin that killed two persons and injured more than 200.

The East Germans were embarrassed by the publicity over the discotheque bombing, especially because they are preparing for Berlin's 750th anniversary next year.

Western diplomats in Bonn and Moscow said Libyans were being stepped up guard on.

The new security measures, and the serious response of East German officials when the terrorist issue is raised, suggest that the two countries are showing increased interest in preventing terrorism in this divided city, the diplomats said.

"The East Germans and the Soviet seem to be taking the whole terrorist thing very seriously," a senior Western official here said.

They want to improve their image, he said. "They certainly don't want East Berlin to be seen as a center of terrorism."

East Berlin police have set up checkpoints to control traffic on several streets in neighborhoods where many foreign diplomats have their homes. A senior U.S. Embassy official now has a 24-hour police guard outside his house; previously, a police car passed occasionally.

In a related development, West Berlin police have begun stepping up guard on Libyans and some other Middle Eastern diplomats shortly after they enter West Berlin, the Western diplomats said.

## U.K. Links Libyan Airline To Terror, May Ban Flights

The Associated Press

**LONDON** — Britain says that Libyan Arab Airlines is implicated in terrorism and may ban flights by the state-owned airline.

The British announcement follows Friday's conviction of a Palestinian doctor on charges of receiving four grenades, which the British government said were used in terrorist attacks in Britain.

The police and security services were reported Saturday by the British news media to be on heightened alert for terrorist reprisals following the sentencing of Raed Awdi, 43, who has dual Jordanian-Spanish nationality, to 25 years in prison.

A Foreign Office statement said: "The government is gravely concerned that this case clearly links the Libyan Arab Airlines in terrorist-related activity."

A Foreign Office spokesman said a possible ban on flights to

Britain by the airline was one possibility. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's cabinet is expected to consider the issue at its meeting.

The Foreign Office said security had been stepped up immediately after the arrest of Mr. Awdi and Nasir Muhammad, a Palestinian student, on Sept. 22, 1985.

Mr. Muhammad, 28, an Iraqi-born Jordanian, was arrested Friday but detained by the Home Office, which said he would be deported for reasons of national security.

The Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, said government officials had emphasized that any ban on Libyan Arab Airlines should not be seen as part of a wider effort to isolate Libya but as a British reaction to a terrorist threat.

Britain broke relations with Libya in April 1984 after a London police officer, Yvonne Fletcher, was fatally shot during a 15-day riotous demonstration. Britain charged that she had been killed by a Libyan shooting from inside the Libyan Embassy.

## Morocco Said to Seize 4 in Plot to Bomb Synagogue

By Stephen Engelberg  
New York Times Service

**WASHINGTON** — Morocco recently arrested a team of Palestinian who were plotting to bomb a synagogue in Casablanca on the Jewish New Year next week, according to U.S. officials.

The officials said neither the affiliations nor the goals of the team were known. They cautioned against linking the incident with any of a recent series of terrorist attacks against Jewish or Western targets.

"We don't know how this fits in, or whether it fits in at all," an administration official said.

arrested four Arabs — a Palestinian, two Tunisians and a Lebanese — on terrorism charges.

Details about the arrests were sketchy. According to Moroccan security officials, the Palestinians were carrying explosives and a plan for one of the synagogues in Casablanca.

Officials said it appeared that the assault was being planned for Saturday, when members of the congregation would have gathered to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year and early of the Jewish calendar.

Almond Bourzaim, a counselor at the Moroccan Embassy in Washington, said he was not aware of the arrests. He said, however, that his country had been bracing for possible terrorist attacks since Hassan and Mr. Fares met.

Morocco has begun demanding that visitors from some Arab countries obtain visas before entering the country.

"We are trying to protect ourselves as best we can," Mr. Bourzaim said. There has been open talk in the Arab world of reprisals against Hassan for taking part in any talks with the Israelis. The Syrian daily al-Bath, for example, warned that the king would be punished for his actions.

Mr. Bourzaim said 15,000 to 20,000 Jews live in Morocco, most of them in Casablanca, a city of three million people. Although many Moroccan Jews have emigrated to Israel, the country's Jewish population is nonetheless vibrant as the largest and most influential in the Arab world.

The planned attack against the synagogue comes less than a month after two gunmen attacked a syna-

gogue in Istanbul with machine guns and grenades during a Sabbath services.

Administration officials said the attack on Sept. 6, which left 21 worshippers dead and 100 injured, had been carefully planned. American officials said there were indications that the operation was carried out by forces linked to Abu Nidal, a Palestinian who broke away from Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Nail C. Livingston, president of the Institute on Terrorism and Sub-National Conflict, said the Istanbul attack suggested a trend toward terrorism against unguarded Jewish synagogues.

"The bad guys are going after soft targets," he said. "A synagogue is a soft target. You can't turn it into an armed camp, particularly in an Arab country."





# Arab Banking

## Gulf Banks Reflect Impact of Slowdown

By Orlan Tobary

CAIRO—A new wave of negative growth is spreading from the Gulf region into neighboring countries and weighing heavily on the banking sector's performance.

Pressure is mounting on authorities responsible for maintaining the standards of the financial institutions' performance to prevent the rapidly deteriorating economic conditions from affecting the banks.

The banks suffered their first blows three years ago when the boom in the Gulf began to wane. The ensuing adjustment entailed cuts in public expenditures, which had fueled the banking sector's spectacular growth.

As the slowdown continued, opportunities for banking activities in project and trade financing narrowed, while banks and entrepreneurs faced the consequences of delays in government payment.

This eventually led to a series of defaulting contracts. The world oil crisis, with the sharp fall in prices in the first half of this year, sharply affected the Gulf states' economies, which are contracting rapidly.

The dramatic acceleration of these negative trends has had an immediate impact on the region's banks, as reflected in their mid-year results. The Arab Banking Corporation, which is one of the region's strongest and most prestigious financial institutions, recently published mid-year figures that showed a small increase in assets and loans, a 69-percent increase in loan loss provisions and a 19-percent fall in net profit.

Neighboring countries, whose economies had grown through the reorientation of their citizens working temporarily in the Gulf area, faced similar problems. These countries include Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and, to a lesser extent, Tunisia, Morocco and Lebanon.

The gradual fall in remittances as many expatriates returned home this year because of deteriorating economic conditions in the Gulf has meant a reduction in the influx of foreign exchange into these countries at a time when trade financing needs grew dramatically

because of an appetite for imports that had developed over the last decade.

The impact was magnified in Egypt because of its dependence on oil exports as a main source of state income and foreign exchange.

In addition, the banks in these countries are struggling with the tightening of foreign exchange resources.

The emergence of problem loans, with the first signs of the slowdown in the Gulf, has brought under the spotlight the role of the central banks in protecting the banks and are the first major test for the Gulf's monetary agencies, pointing up weakness in their ability to monitor the banks.

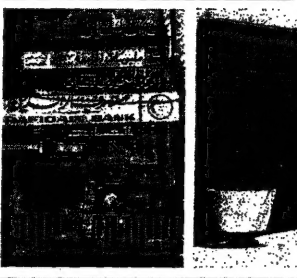
The crucial question of whether these bodies are indeed a last resort has come up repeatedly lately. However, with the exception of the Central Bank of Kuwait, the issue has not been resolved. Thus the extent of the authorities' commitment to the banks in the event of trouble and the limits on their intervention remain unclear.

However, some banks have been helped out with the help of the central banks or monetary agencies in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. Without a legal framework, however, these interventions have been unable to overcome problems concerning Islamic law, with courts ruling in favor of the waiver of interest on problem loans due to their interpretation of Islamic theology as banning from interest.

The most decisive and radical steps made to avert a banking crisis were taken by the Central Bank of Kuwait, which is complementing the government's efforts to clean up balances from the collapse of the Saudi al-Manakh unofficial stock exchange and help the country's financial institutions survive its repercussions.

The Kuwaiti bank moved last winter to enforce strict provisioning requirements on all banks operating in the country to the dismay of bankers who regarded the local classification criteria as too harsh. As a result, incomplete published year-end figures have revealed that at least two of the country's five banks were unable to cover the

Continued on page 12



## The Higher the Climb, The Harder the Fall

By Kevin Muching

LONDON—To say that there has been a crisis in Arab banking is perhaps only marginally too strong a description, but it is fair to say the last two years have not been particularly kind to scores of Arab financial institutions.

The higher the climb, the harder the fall, and the dramatic rise of the Arab banks onto the international stage on the back of the petrodollar surpluses of the 1970s and subsequent equally dramatic fall—especially the oil-rich banks in the Gulf—is no exception to the adage.

But the reversal in fortunes among the Arab institutions should not be kept in the perspective of an inevitable shakedown of a market that was hopelessly overcrowded and big-headed with unrealistic expectations.

There are several unusual aspects of the Arab situation. For one, the scarcity of capital was never a problem. Rather what the Arab banks lacked—and to a certain, though diminishing extent, still do—was management expertise and depth, and an operating culture and market franchise.

But even more ironically, the Arab banks always lacked a market base, or at least a market equal to the grandiose capital they were either born with or acquired. The construction boom in their domestic markets could never by definition last more than a few years and the populations were too small and government handouts too large to ever fuel a classic consumer-led lending boom.

Internationally, the syndicated-loan market evaporated just as the banks were becoming increasingly dependent on it for their non-domestic asset growth, and most of the banks have lacked the management capability to adapt to the shift by borrowers and investors to the global capital markets.

The impact has been a shakedown that will leave a few leaner, but battle-hardened and better managed Arab banks. One could even argue that however painful the downturn, it was, nonetheless, the missing element to the evolution of Arab banking.

The downfall, nevertheless, has been dramatic and devastating. In Saudi Arabia, for instance, the consolidated profitability of the dozen commercial banks fell to barely 500 million riyals (\$148 million) last year, three times less than that just the year before, while loan loss provisioning soared to more than 1.2 billion riyals from 700 million riyals.

National Commercial Bank, the kingdom's largest, saw its profits fall by 80 percent to 99 million riyals in the year ending last September, while its provisions jumped to 1.3 percent of its loan portfolio.

There have been about a dozen bank collapses in the Gulf, especially in the United Arab Emirates and in Kuwait. Analysts estimate that up to half or more of the offshore banks in Bahrain are either impracticable or there in name only. The perceived credit risk of lending to Arab institutions in the interbank market has risen to the point that all but the handful of first-tier banks are having to pay a hefty premium for their borrowings, if they have any lines at all.

"I just do not think it has bottomed out yet," said Rahnoun Habib, a banking analyst at the Geneva-based Capital Intelligence. "There could still be some major shocks. Not necessarily a bank collapse, though that cannot be ruled out, especially in the

U.A.E.—but there will still be a lot of pain and hard wringing."

Capital Intelligence instituted a credit rating system across the spectrum of Arab financial institutions, rating some 250 Arab institutions through eight rankings ranging from a "AAA" to "D".

No Arab bank has managed a triple-A rating and only half a dozen attained the AA ratings, among them the highly regarded United Bank of Kuwait in London, National Bank of Kuwait, Gulf International Bank and Saudi International Bank. Arab Banking Corporation slipped down to a Single A due to its Latin American exposure. Al-Bahraini Arab African Bank, which has been having severe problems with its loan portfolio, has been downgraded to a split Single B/U rating.

It is fair to say the last two years have not been kind.

Mr. Habib thinks, however, that the Kuwaiti financial system probably has seen the worst of it. Although the market and its financial institutions will probably never rise to their commanding heights of the late 1970s, the banks that have survived are emerging leaner, with cleaner balance sheets, and with battle-hardened management teams and, often, new board members unencumbered with the legacy of the Saudi al-Manakh dealings.

Ironically, their potential emergence from under the debris of the al-Manakh disaster is due in large part to the tough, but politically controversial stance taken by Kuwait's central bank, which made the banks into the bullet scarier rather than later. But banks in Saudi Arabia and the Emirates still have to provision fully against their bad debts. Saudi American bank, for instance, though one of the best managed banks in the kingdom, nevertheless has barely a 1-percent loan loss provisioning against its loan portfolio.

The result of the shakedown has been a polarization of Arab financial institutions into more distinctively defined sizes toward the extremes of the financial services spectrum, operating either globally or as regional or purely domestic specialty niche firms—in effect, a regional renaissance of the developments in the global markets over the last five years.

The larger, well-capitalized and supported "first tier" banks such as Gulf International, Arab Banking Corporation, National Bank of Kuwait, Saudi International Bank, National Commercial and Riyad Bank, and the National Bank of Abu Dhabi are at one end of the spectrum. They enjoy a family entrenchment position in the international markets, in both the traditional and commercial banking markets and a tenuous hold in the more difficult fee-earning investment banking services.

At the other end are the specialist firms with particular

Continued on page 13

## Currencies: A Wave of Devaluations Follows Collapse in Oil Prices

By Ken Percis

LONDON—The impact of the decision by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to abandon production quotas and regain market share is still reverberating through the Middle East despite the voluntary production-cutting agreement introduced on Sept. 1. The oil price collapse has forced Arab oil-producing to accept devaluations, delayed budgets and cuts in public spending as they try to come to terms with sharply reduced oil revenues.

The fall-out from the collapse in oil prices to the current average of around \$15 a barrel from January's \$30 a barrel can be seen clearly in the foreign exchange markets. The stable environment in which most Arab currencies have historically traded has given way to devaluations and downward adjustments in Oman, Saudi Arabia, North Yemen, Kuwait, Syria and Libya this year.

The fundamentally weak currencies, such as the Egyptian, Sudanese and Lebanese pounds, have seen their downward spirals accelerate as revenue has ebbed away with the price of

crude. Jordan, Qatar, Iran, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain have weathered the oil price slump without resorting to a devaluation of their currencies, but they have been forced to make sharp cuts in public spending.

Saudi Arabia, the largest OPEC producer, has been one of the hardest hit by the reversal in the oil price. The country's oil earnings are expected to drop below \$22 billion this year against \$27 billion in 1985 and \$110 billion in 1981.

Riyadh's assurances that a devaluation would not follow the first postponement of the budget in March proved short-lived. The rial was devalued on June 1 by 2.75 percent to 3.75 riyals to the dollar and the market expects another substantial move this year.

Riyad's deposit rates now stand at a large premium to dollar interest rates as dealers continue to refuse long-term positions ahead of a possible devaluation of the currency. Confidence in the rial has not been helped by the Aug. 4 announcement that the budget will now be delayed until December 21.

Oil prices above \$16 a barrel are needed just to hold Saudi Arabia's trade and budget defi-

cits close to last year's \$20 billion and \$12.3 billion respectively. Previous austerity measures, which cut state spending in fiscal year 1985/86 to only 30 percent of that in fiscal year 1981/82, limit the scope for further budget cuts. And foreign exchange reserves are now some \$40 billion below their level of \$120 billion.

Those factors highlight the pressures for a devaluation, which makes any will be of the order of 10 halas. That would take the rial to 3.85 to the dollar compared to an average rate of 3.56 to the dollar in 1979—the year of the second major oil shock.

"The market expects a further devaluation if oil remains between \$10 and \$20 a barrel by the end of this year," said Trevor Bush, foreign exchange and money markets manager at Riyad Bank in London. "The anticipation of a move will put pressure on the currency, which means Saudi interest rates will move even higher."

The authorities devalued by less than 3 percent last time, but that was still less than 3 percent, which is not very much when you are trying to correct a large [\$13.5 billion expected this year] current account deficit.

The falling oil price has also pushed Oman into its first devaluation for 13 years, a 10.2-percent move on Jan. 26 to 0.985 Omani rials to the dollar.

However, oil accounts for 92 percent of exports and 84 percent of national income so Oman is almost totally dependent on the oil price for its economic well being. The country suffered a severe reduction in revenue in the first eight months of the year and unless the oil price maintains its recent gains a further currency adjustment may be necessary.

Libya responded to the oil price drop by deferring the 1986 budget and devaluing its currency. The 4.2-percent devaluation announced in March was accompanied by a switch from a dollar to a special drawing right (SDR) peg, which holds the 0.3 dinar to the dollar link held since 1973. Libya's oil revenues are expected to fall 50 percent from \$10 billion in 1985, but austerity measures imposed since 1982 limit the scope for further cutbacks. That indicates further pressure on the dinar under oil prices held on to the gains they have made since they bottomed out in August.

The drop in the oil price has also affected Arab countries that rely on remittances from workers in the Gulf region. For example, a 10.2-percent move on Jan. 26 to 0.985 Omani rials to the dollar. The Yemeni oil industry is only expected to produce 200,000 barrels a day by 1991, so the oil price collapse has not directly hit government revenues.

However, transfers from the one million Yemeni working overseas have been drastically reduced by the oil-induced economic slowdown in other Arab countries. In the first quarter of 1986 remittances were down 30 percent, to \$72 million rials from the fourth quarter in 1985.

The Central Bank of Yemen has responded to recent speculation against the rial by cracking down on unauthorized currency traders. It has also stopped issuing licenses for new foreign exchange dealers. Nevertheless, traders believe the moves are unlikely to reverse the pressure on the currency, which is reflected in a

25-percent black market premium over the official rate.

Falling remittances have also affected Jordan, which saw such receipts drop for the first time in 1985 to 405 million Jordanian dinars from 475 million dinars in 1984. A further significant decline is expected this year as the Gulf countries cut back their foreign labor forces.

However, the oil price slump is more of a mixed blessing for Jordan, which benefits from a lower oil import bill. Crude-oil liftings, which accounted for 18 percent of import costs in 1985, fell to 39 million dinars in the first quarter of this year, against 50 million dinars in the same period of 1985. That trend is expected to help to narrow the trade deficit to 560 million dinars this year.

The outlook for the Arab currencies is heavily tied up with the degree to which the oil price recovery can be prolonged. That depends on whether OPEC decides at its Oct. 6 meeting in Geneva to continue holding back production after a review of the two-month second emergency in operation to limit output to 16.7 million barrels a day.

## Banque Indosuez in the Middle East.

In the Middle East, Banque Indosuez is present in all the major countries: Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Turkey, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Cairo, Bahrain, Oman and

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## A SPECIAL REPORT

# The Shobokshi Empire: Case Study in Work-Outs

By Kevin Muehling

LONDON — After nearly a decade of frenzied lending to the oil-fueled boom economies of the Gulf, the days of judgment for the dozens of international and domestic banks arrived with a vengeance over the last two years with the surge in nonperforming loans.

Some banks saw the handwriting on the wall early enough and tightened up before the crash. Citibank, for example, is notably absent from the list of banks with the worst loan losses on their books. National Bank of Kuwait also began reducing its vulnerability to the ravages of the Gulf oil market even before it began its downward spiral in 1982.

But dozens of international, offshore Arab and domestic banks did not — or saw their best clients dragged down by the region's downward pull — and found themselves devoting more and more of their management time to defend and bolster deteriorating loan portfolios through loan work-outs and rescheduling.

The types of loan work-outs in the Gulf have run the gamut, ranging from a pure financial restructuring, a mix of corporate restructuring and loan rescheduling, the controlled liquidation and the extreme failure of the lawsuit and "every man for himself."

But the loan work-out in the Gulf, where for the most part, a legal infrastructure does not exist and the prevailing religion and culture chafe against what is considered the Western import of interest, is an entirely different affair than in Rio de Janeiro or Des Moines, Iowa.

Discouraging assets is often a Herculean task. And once found, the real work begins in actually disposing of them, especially in the Gulf itself.

The rise and subsequent fall of the Shobokshi empire, and the negotiations to whittle its mammoth \$685 million of debt into a smaller repayable figure, provides what is perhaps the most graphic illustration of the immense complexities and difficulties of a Middle East loan work-out.

The agreement between the Shobokshi Group, its financial advisers, Morgan Stanley & Co., and 83 creditor banks led by First Chicago has, in fact, yet to be finalized after more than two years of negotiations. But it has contained several flashes of inspiration and creativity and could well become a precedent-setting showcase of how to, or

even how not to, do a Middle East work-out.

The Shobokshi group was established in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in 1956 by Hassan Shobokshi. The patriarch of the family ran what was essentially a trading company through the 1950s and 1960s, while the two sons, Faisal and Ali, went to Cairo for their education in business administration.

The small but profitable operations were quickly transformed

**This agreement could well become a precedent-setting showcase.**

during the boom years of the 1970s, by the two brothers after their return to Jeddah into a diversified conglomerate centered around the contracting arm, the General Agency Corporation.

By 1982, GAC held assets estimated at nearly \$850 million, while turnover reached about \$300 million, more than double that of 1980. But like many of the rapidly expanding companies in the Gulf at the time, the group was operating with scant internal financial controls with funds earmarked for projects often being channeled into real-estate investments or as an assortment of investments abroad.

The strong ties both brothers held to Egypt, for instance, led to several major investments in Cairo that sound Government embarks in payments, and the beginning of the slowdown in the Saudi economy in 1982 and early 1983 was quickly felt by the group.

Yet, the Shobokshi were able to continue borrowing offshore. Debt had accumulated to about \$254 million by the end of 1981. In 1982, another \$75-million loan to restructure existing short-term debt was raised through a syndicate of Bahrain-based banks. In 1983, First Chicago pressed ahead with a

\$106.3-million, five-part syndication. In May 1984, another \$40 million was raised from an international syndicate of offshore banks.

But it was too late to stem or hide the losses. Several interest payment dates were missed in mid-1984, which in turn triggered cross default mechanisms of various loans outstanding. The first meeting between the Shobokshis and the major creditors were held in London in July 1984. Morgan Stanley was also brought in as an adviser to the borrower and a 90-day interest moratorium began in September.

The banks first tried a "macro approach" in which all the debt would be lumped together and the banks would then contribute fresh funding on a pro-rata basis to keep the company afloat together and the banks would then contribute fresh funding on a pro-rata basis to keep the company afloat together and the banks would then contribute fresh funding on a pro-rata basis to keep the company afloat together.

By November, the tact was switched to a project-oriented basis in which the project lenders agreed to extend fresh financing to see their projects through. They also assumed direct responsibility for the financing of each project.

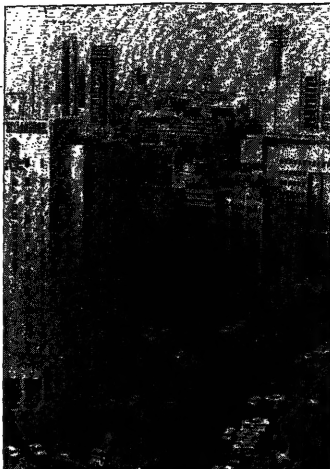
In February 1985, Morgan Stanley asked for a further interest moratorium until August. The same month, the creditor banks formed the seven-bank steering committee chaired by First Chicago.

The key meeting of the rescheduling took place in London in March, when Morgan laid out the broad outlines of the rescheduling agreement. Three crucial meetings followed in August and October and in March this year.

There were often heated criticisms of Morgan Stanley's proposals, but for the most part, the agreement the banks hope to sign later this year is in fact essentially the same as that first offered to the banks about 18 months before in March 1985.

The subsequent meetings were primarily to iron out the fine print and a key objection of the banks to a "no recourse" clause in the event of nonpayment, which in fact was only slightly modified in the current agreement. The bill was almost always with the banks, which had split into two camps with diverging interests in the deal.

According to some of the loan documents, the Shobokshi Group's total liabilities in February 1985



View of Kuwait's new city center.

were \$685 million. The bulk of this was in overdrafts, working capital loans and letters of credit and re-financing totaling about \$532 million at the then prevailing exchange rate. The remaining \$153 million was in off-balance-sheet contingencies such as performance and progress payment guarantees and bonds.

The liabilities were spread across 83 banks, the largest being First Chicago, and into two broad categories of project related and general purpose, unsecured loans. While some banks such as First Chicago were in both categories, the other 84 banks were roughly split into the two roughly equal camps of project secured and general purpose unsecured lenders.

The loans and guarantees of the project lenders for 10 major projects totaled just over \$285 million, a third of which was in contingencies. The general purpose lenders held the other \$400 million, or 58 percent of the total debt, the lion's share of \$259 million was unsecured. It was these different types of exposure and perception of interest that have made the rescheduling so difficult and extensively delayed.

The repayment plan itself consists of targets that would be met through cash generated from three sources. The first is the completion

of projects that would liquidate the overdraft of the guarantee and bonding contingencies. Second, some excess cash flow would be generated through the projects, and third, additional funds would be raised through the disposal of non-strategic assets. The repayment would be stretched over a seven- to nine-year period to 1992 or 1994, depending on Shobokshi's ability to raise cash.

The repayment mechanism is complicated, but pared to its bones essentially revolves around a "trust" out of which repayments would be disbursed to the banks on a pro-rata basis in two stages. The first stage would be split between payments to the general purpose lenders out of the trust, and the project lenders receiving only some payments but their contingent liabilities liquidated through the completion of the projects.

By June 1986, the date of the last completed project, the contingent liabilities would be eliminated and the remaining project cash debts "offloaded" into the general unsecured pool of debt and paid on a recomputed pro rata basis out of the trust. The general debt pool at the outset totals about \$359 million, the "offload" component is likely to be about \$86 million, thus lifting the total to about \$445 million.

## Western Creditors Grapple With Egypt's Unwieldy Debt

By Alex Ferguson

LONDON — Egypt is teetering on the brink of bankruptcy, again. During the hot months of August and September, World Bank and IMF teams flew in and out of Cairo, grappling with the details of a solution to the country's problems. Egypt wants an IMF standby credit to help the country's balance of

payments. And on Sept. 17, Egypt was on the agenda of the Paris Club, the forum for Western national creditor credit agencies. All have, to their regret, insured and financed exports to Egypt. At issue at the meetings were the vexed questions of how long the country can carry on paying its debts and what to do when the payments stop. Most of Egypt's larger debtors, Britain, France and West Germany, reported alarming payment arrears.

Even more have spent for months on when Egypt will finally reach its debt, which are now estimated at \$36 billion. Many observers are betting that it will be this year. Only many of last year, were saying the same thing last year.

The problems have hardly changed. Egypt relies heavily for its foreign exchange earnings on oil, workers remittance and funds from the Suez Canal. These three sources fueled the economic growth of the 1970s. None of them are bringing the same amounts of cash in as they used to, although canal dues have recently increased again.

The problems may remain the same but this time Egypt will be lucky to avoid a rescheduling, argue bankers. This is not only due to the seriousness of the situation, but also because the Egyptians have become more realistic. The government has recognized that it is entering a three-year debt trap, when payments peak. This trap is not caused by recent borrowings. It has always been there, only Egypt did not know it. Better accounting methods, encouraged by the IMF and World Bank, have revealed the situation to the government and encouraged it to think of more long-term solutions.

The main problem now is to decide the form of rescheduling. The IMF told Egypt that it needed a multilateral rescheduling. Its various national creditors agree. They would prefer to negotiate with Egypt as a unified front to exact the best deal possible. But before they agree to a rescheduling they want Egypt to agree to the terms of an IMF economic adjustment program. This is a standard condition for Paris Club rescheduling.

That could be hard. Egypt has

been talking to the IMF for years about reforming its economic system. Even though it would like a standby facility, the government finds it hard to meet the IMF demand to dismantle the country's multilateral exchange rate system. Pegged rates are used to calculate import duties and payments for basic commodities. They are well below the rates quoted on Egypt's thriving black market.

Egypt is also reluctant to reschedule unilaterally. It prefers picking off creditors, one by one. On this front, Egypt can already notch up one success: one bilateral rescheduling last year with France on debt owed for military purchases.

Similar deals are unlikely on pure trade debts. But bankers are pleased to see that Egypt is at least doing something about its military debts. "In many ways that's the key," says a London banker. "If they start that out, it mitigates the burden considerably."

Military assistance takes up most of the aid funds Egypt receives. In the fiscal year of 1985 a total of \$1.9 billion was provided by donors. Of this \$1.175 billion is thought to be for military purposes. The United States provided by far the most aid with around \$1.2 billion. Rescheduling the total of \$4.55 billion owed to the United States would be a big step, as interest on loans is now under the \$300-million mark.

Egypt has complained about the high interest rates it pays on its U.S. debt. The rates are high because they are the fixed rates used for government subsidized export credits under guidelines set by the OECD. These are adjusted every six months according to average bond yields. Over the last year the rates have fallen by over 2 percent. But Egypt is still paying at higher, fixed rates of interest.

Military debts to the Soviet Union have been virtually written off. Payments on \$3.4 billion were suspended in 1977. A gloomy future has not stopped Egypt continuing to be a big export market. Major projects, like the \$1.1 billion El-Daba nuclear plant,

may be pushed back year after year, but smaller trade deals continue, even on credit.

The Egyptian government does not need too long to be in a bind. All private sector imports have to be paid by letters of credit. Public sector imports can be done through a bank collection.

Payment delays are a feature of exporting to Egypt and are now running up to six months after due date. Bankers confirming (discounting for cash) letters of credit for Egypt now build in the payment delays into their charges to compensate for recovering their money later.

This has meant that the cost for exporting on credit to Egypt has risen, finding the bank that will do Egypt's bookkeeping has become harder.

Jack Killick runs the Export Credits Clearing House, which specializes in placing trade credits with the banks in the City of London. "Under present circumstances it is not surprising that banks have closed down on new credit exposure for Egypt. Nevertheless there is still some capacity in the City and Letters of Credit confirmations can be arranged for \$40 to 700 days. Prices vary widely."

Another problem facing exporters is that not all Egyptian banks are acceptable to foreign banks. Until 1974, when the state was liberalized, four state banks enjoyed a virtual monopoly. Bank of Alexandria, Banque du Caire, Bank Misr and the National Bank of Egypt. Today there are around 70 investment companies and banks, although the big four still dominate commercial banking and new local banks.

Choosing the right bank makes a big difference to how quickly foreign exchange is remitted. Many are wary of the inefficiency of the state banks. And few will touch a transaction involving the Bank of Alexandria. It has a reputation for slowing things up. "Add 60 days for incompetence," says one foreign banker. And those 60 days are on top of the six months that it can take a foreign currency payment to work its way through the system.

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## A SPECIAL REPORT

# For Morocco, A Reprieve From Pressures

By Francis Guiles

RABAT — Pleasant rain, the collapse in the price of oil, a lower dollar and the decline in U.S. interest rates have provided the Moroccan government with a much-needed breathing period.

In addition, King Hassan II does not appear to have taken advantage of these factors to relax the austerity program, which Morocco, under the aegis of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, has been pursuing for the past three years.

The strain in relations between the IMF and Rabat, which earlier this year led to the suspension of a 200-million special drawing right granted to Morocco 12 months ago, appears to have eased as negotiations got under way this month for a new IMF standby credit.

The previous standby credit was suspended after Morocco failed to meet the economic targets agreed to with the IMF — amid the kind of misinformation that has become customary in such circumstances.

Senior officials in Rabat argue that they cannot undertake reforms too fast as the risk of undermining the king's authority and threatening social peace.

IMF and World Bank officials, however, would prefer that Morocco not agree to targets that it cannot realistically meet and then find

itself in no position to honor their commitment.

This year's report from the Banque du Maroc, the central bank, insists that whatever the progress Morocco may have made toward reform, now is not the time to relax the efforts.

It expressed concern about the continued high level of private consumption and the low level of savings, the latter despite the fact that last year, for the first time in 30 years, Moroccan could earn a real return on their bank deposits.

Morocco's gross domestic product rose by 4.5 percent last year. That was double the figure for 1984 and the best result since 1979.

A good cereal crop was a major reason for this result and was all the more important because half the population lives on the land. A record crop this year will further help growth.

Government spending did, however, increase by one-third, although investment was the same as in 1984. The budget deficit was trimmed, but the state still owes Moroccan companies at least 9 billion dirhams (\$1.04 billion).

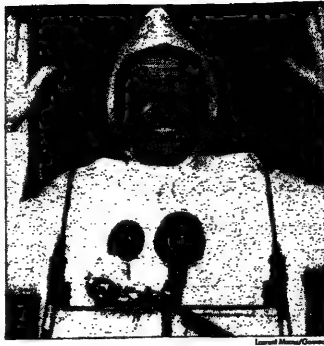
Last year's money supply increased by 14 percent, well above target, but the Banque du Maroc insists that the 7.7-percent inflation rate is proof that all is under control.

Abolishing the export monopoly of the Office de Commercialisation et d'Exportation was a move in the direction much sought by the IMF and the World Bank.

Despite a 13.8-percent increase in exports, which in real terms is less impressive once the continued devaluation of the dirham is taken into account, terms of trade continued to decline, not the least because of the fall in the price of phosphates and phosphoric acid. Morocco is the world's largest phosphate exporter.

In addition, European Community restrictions have hurt Moroccan exporters, particularly of fruit, vegetables and certain leather and textile goods. The dispute between the two countries over the bulk of the kingdom's trade.

The absence of relations with Algeria, once Morocco's major market, weighs heavily. The dispute between the two countries over the future of the Western Sahara, whose defense is costly to Morocco,



King Hassan II of Morocco.

The current account deficit, meanwhile, was cut from 11.8 percent to 7.7 percent of GDP and could well be reduced by half this year because of the economic improvements. Last year's trade deficit still amounts to four-fifths of the country's exports.

The overall deficit on the foreign account and interest on foreign debt remain well above what Morocco earns from tourism and remittances from Moroccan workers overseas. Both of these rose sharply in 1985.

Other important reforms have included a liberalization of trade with 85 percent of all imports now free and a cut in the maximum tariff to 40 percent.

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The absence of relations with Algeria, once Morocco's major market, weighs heavily. The dispute between the two countries over the future of the Western Sahara, whose defense is costly to Morocco,

shows little sign of being resolved soon.

The Moroccan foreign debt, which has been effectively restructured for the past three years, is \$14 billion, which is more than 100 percent of GDP. Debt repayments this year will cost \$2.1 billion, and Morocco can count on \$1.7 billion worth of relief.

The country has drawn 640 percent of its quota with the IMF, a higher figure than any country other than Sudan and Jamaica. Agreement on a new standby credit is vital, not the least because the banks might lead Morocco new funds.

However, U.S. banks are unhappy that the \$450 million worth of bankers' acceptances and advances they have outstanding are being cleared by Rabat as working capital rather than repaid regularly and redrawn.

The introduction of a value-added tax last April, which hurt wholesalers who hardly pay taxes, and the raising of electricity, telephone and water bills that many well-connected people never pay, suggest that the spirit of reform is not dead. But getting results from the National Association for Investments, which manages a large portfolio of state investments, is vital.

As he tries to negotiate a new standby credit with the IMF this fall, the new minister of finance, Mohammed Barada, whose experience to date has been confined to the private sector and university lecturing, faces his first major challenge.

The consequence of a failure is something most senior Moroccan do not believe they will have to face.

# Trade, Project Financing Slump

By Alex Ferguson

LONDON — Now hardly seems the time for Arab banks to develop their expertise in trade and project financing. Major projects are hard to find nowadays. Every developing country has them, but most cannot afford them. And the Middle East, where Arab banks are at home, is the market where the biggest slump in both trade and projects seems to have happened.

West German companies, like Langi and Krupp Polysar, made a killing in the 1970s and early 1980s out of huge tinny plantations in Arab markets.

Business today is a fraction of what it was. One only has to look at the 1985 results of Hermes, West Germany's export credit insurer, which guarantees trade credit against the default of a buyer. Those show that in 1985 Hermes insured 40,000 deals, each worth more than 100 million Deutsche marks (\$49 million) and with a total value of 17.5 billion marks. Last year a similar size deals were covered, worth 3.1 billion marks.

The crash of the oil price, which overnight turned extravagant Middle Eastern economies into penny pinches, is cited as the major cause of the project market's decline.

Presidentially, the hard times that lie ahead for the region offer greater opportunities for Arab banks.

The Middle East is turning from a cash to a credit market. Many foreign banks that opened in the Gulf during the 1970s were more than 100 million Deutsche marks (\$49 million) and with a total value of 17.5 billion marks. Last year a similar size deals were covered, worth 3.1 billion marks.

Other banks have been after the business for longer. Most are multinational Arab banks, like the United Bank of Kuwait and the Arab Bank in London. Both are looking at project finance as an important part of their future operations.

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## Oil Decline Curbs Projects

Project financing, at its height in 1973, started to decline as oil output began to fall in 1981, and even further in 1983, when production programming was instituted.

	1973	1981	1983	1985
(millions of barrels per day)				
Algeria	1,097	798	661	632
Iraq	2,018	897	1,099	1,427
Kuwait	3,020	1,130	1,05	1,01
Libya	2,174	1,218	1,03	1,03
Qatar	570	405	294	294
Saudi Arabia	7,996	9,800	4,56	3,3
UAE	1,532	1,502	1,11	1,2
Bahrain	668	644	642	642
Egypt	145	403	462	371
Tunisia	682	111	115	120
Cyprus	294	328	389	490
Syria	105	163	161	162

Source: OPEC.

Two, "an Arab banker said. "When we want capital markets expertise then we become their customers. But when their clients are bidding for a Yemen pipeline, it's a different story."

Saudi Arabian Bank and National Commercial Bank of Saudi Arabia have recently received banking licenses to start business in London. Both are looking at project finance as an important part of their future operations.

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of funds when loans are raised. It is the labor-intensive work of arranging deals, where fees are earned from advisory work, that is in the forefront of project finance business. Chipping in with the funds simply means responding to a syndication letter. The rewards are correspondingly less.

Arab banks are becoming more visible in project finance. Their last crop this year was the world co-financing for the Kayakaplan dam project in Turkey. World Bank co-financings are credit divided into A loans, taken by commercial banks, and smaller B loans provided by the World Bank to stretch maturities for the borrower.

Co-financings are designed to sweep banks into lending to developing countries. To date, no debtor has defaulted on a World Bank loan.

But with the Kayakaplan project many banks were not so sure. They were not convinced that the loan was really being used for the dam and thought that its real purpose was to help Turkey's balance of payments.

The Arab Banking Corporation had aggressively for the mandate to arrange a \$100-million loan. To win the deal it agreed to underwrite the financing completely. That meant that if ABC could not find enough banks willing to take a slice of the loan, then it would absorb it itself. The Turkish treasury was therefore asked a pre-negotiated deal.

Another area that Arab banks are watching is aircraft finance. Gulf Air, to take just one example, is looking to modernize its fleet. Others are doing the same.

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# Gulf Banks Reflect the Slowdown

Continued from page 9

from loan provisions set by the bank and they incurred net losses. At the end of last year, problem loans totaled 12 billion Kuwaiti dinars (\$4.14 billion), half of which were unsecured. This led the bank to estimate that 500 million Kuwaiti dinars were needed to bail out banks.

Its recent plans for the refinancing and restructuring process to extend over a 10- to 15-year period suggested a much higher figure for government support for the banks.

The Saudi bank's performance last year, as shown by the bank's year-end figures, along with the lingering case of the Saudi Cairo Bank, are increasing the pressure on the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency to raise its profile.

The profitability of Saudi banks fell by an average of 80 percent to 90 percent, while bad nonperforming loans accounted for a quarter of their assets. These results were particularly disconcerting for foreign partners, most of whom have not received dividends and whose contracts with Saudi partners are currently being renegotiated.

Foreign banks operating in the kingdom complain about the difficulty of raising collateral in a deflating case, but they say that the strengthening of the Saudi Arabian

Monetary Agency's arbitration board has given them hope that the problem of illiquid loans will not be as severe. They also say that Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency is enforcing the practice recently started last year of banks regularly

reporting nonperforming loans to the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency's role in rescuing Saudi Cairo Bank has inspired confidence in the banking community.

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Banking in Cairo, the Egyptian capital, the bank, are being sold for alleged mismanagement. Loans are being held responsible for losses incurred by the bank on speculative trading in real estate.

The United Arab Emirates Central Bank has been closely monitoring the bank's performance and has recommended improving provisions for bad loans. These loans amounted to one-quarter of the facilities provided by banks in the country.

Central bank officials said that the bank had made provisions covering 7 billion out of 10 billion U.A.E. dollars in nonperforming loans. The authorities are concerned that further bankruptcies and defaulting cases will affect the smaller banks in the overburdened

banking community.

The change was justified by a high ratio of unsecured loans to the volume of nonperforming loans reaching one-fifth of the total last year, according to central bank statistics. The trend was reinforced by the Central Bank of Egypt's last audit upgrading of its supervisory capabilities. The bank has also made it mandatory for all banks to report monthly to its risk assessment body on the status of facilities extended to clients.

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When you think of Egypt think of

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TANTA

CAIRO AIRPORT HELIOPOLIS

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A SPECIAL REPORT

# Key Commercial Banks Join Global 'Big League'

By Rami G. Khouri

AMMAN — For the past three years, Arab commercial banks have sought to weather the regional economic downturn by diversifying into non-banking, investment banking services, and in the case of some large banks, by expanding internationally.

This gradual transformation of the character of Arab commercial banking has taken place in a low-key manner, and in the process has created a handful of large Arab commercial banks into the big league of global banking.

The post-1983 decline in oil production and prices triggered a re-evaluation of Arab banks' traditional resources, but has sent Arab commercial banks searching for new strategies to compensate for the sudden dearth of good lending opportunities.

Besides the domestic recession, Arab bankers were also faced with a devalued global financial market's shift away from classical speculation and lending work, and the erosion of the international

debt and an emphasis on devising new financing investment services for corporate and individual clients.

While most Arab banks remain essentially inward-looking domestic banks, a few, such as the National Bank of Bahrain, Bank al-Madina or Jordan National Bank, are profitable regional banks that operate around the Middle East but do not aspire to further horizons.

The real change in Arab banking, however, is to be seen in a handful of big, sophisticated and globally spread Arab banks. These include, most notably, the Arab Bank (Jordan), the National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) and the Bahrain-based Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) and Gulf International Bank (GIB).

Others that may join these big four include the National Commercial Bank (Saudi Arabia), and two Europe-based consortium banks, Union de Banques Arabes and Banques (UBAF) and Banque

Arabe Internationale d'Investissement (BAII).

The attributes that separate these from the hundreds of other Arab banks and financial companies include their large size in terms of assets/deposits and equity base. ABC started this year with assets of \$13 billion, Arab Bank with \$11.7 billion, National Commercial Bank with \$15 billion and NBK with \$9 billion.

They have the ability to transcend traditional commercial banking business and offer clients the very latest, most sophisticated or simply trendiest financial services, such as currency swaps, foreign exchange and portfolio management, forward deals, option, expertise in merger and acquisition, leveraged buyouts, securities, and so on.

Tawfik al-Khalil, senior manager of Arab Bank's international division, said: "The recession of the early 1980s speeded up our expansion abroad to offset declining opportunities in the Arab world, and subsequently we found that our presence in the world's financial centers in turn speeded up our

expansion into money market activities and merchant banking."

About half of Arab Bank's business is in Jordan and the rest of the Arab world, with the other half generated abroad. About a third of its profits today come from foreign-generated, merchant banking operations.

A similar situation exists at NBK, which in the late 1970s began its long-range international expansion.

NBK's general manager, Nemat Sababeh, suggests that management quality and stability will be the principal factors determining how well the Arab banks do abroad.

"The challenge that will face Arab bank managers in a fundamentally very different international banking environment and an unfavorable home market will require thoughtful long-term planning and a realistic assessment of their roles and role in the new environment."

# Islamic Banks Form Financial Network

AMMAN — Faith and finance, long viewed by Western commercial bankers as uneasy partners, have joined hands during the past decade to lay the groundwork for what may emerge in the next decade as a global financial network based on Islamic tenets.

Although short-lived Islamic banks were established in Pakistan and Egypt in the 1950s and 1960s, it was only during 1975-1983 that two dozen Islamic banks were established throughout the Islamic world. The impetus for the revival of a financial system that was first articulated by the Prophet Muhammad 14 centuries ago was the combination of the Arab world's cash surplus after 1974 and a widespread grassroots dissatisfaction with the rigid, interest-based conventional banking system that dominated Islamic societies.

The Islamic ethic believes that the productive human effort and intelligent investment in any business venture should take precedence over its purely financial dimension, and that borrowers,

lenders and the banks that intermediate between them should all share the risk, profit or loss of business venture or trade transaction.

The brisk growth of deposits at the score of Islamic banks established in the late 1970s confirmed that billions of dollars of private savings were being stored at home by people who objected on religious grounds to investing interest-bearing bank accounts.

The nine-year-old Faisal Islamic Bank of Egypt has \$12 billion of savings deposits from 1.2 million clients, to top the domestic bank table. In just six years of business, the Jordanian Islamic Bank for Finance and Investment has become Jordan's fourth largest bank in terms of deposits, with over \$230 million worth. The eight-year-old Kuwait Finance House was so flush with deposits last year — over \$2 billion — that it stopped accepting new investment deposits because of a lack of profitable investment outlets.

Rami G. Khouri

# The Higher the Climb, the Harder the Financial Fall

Continued from page 9

near regional market or product niche. Kuwait Asia Bank, for instance, has made a success with its penetration of the Pacific Basin. Investors have done so as a de-risking investment bank, or the Al-Madina Group, as a European underwriter.

For many of the financial institutions in the middle, they are either collapsing the reach of their operations to either a purely domestic role or a marginal international role, or rapidly becoming "end users" to the investment products and loans churned out by the more nimble and adept Western banks.

The setback has forced most of the banks into a soul-searching management reorganization in both strategic and tactical thinking. United Gulf Bank, for instance, dramatically sold off the bulk of its low yields or wrote them off and made a foray into investment banking as the solution to its dilemma. NBK reorganized the inevitable, and like even the Eurobond giants such as Deutsche Bank and UBS Securities, moved its marketable securities operations to London.

Investment banking has indeed become the new catch phrase throughout the Gulf, and some success has been made to date. ABC and GIB, along with the three main investment companies in Kuwait, have developed a strong regional role as underwriters and co-managers in the Eurobond market, and several Arab banks have slowly built respectable securities trading divisions. NCB and GIB have fairly successful mutual fund operations for smaller investors. ABC has advised on several takeover bids in London, and is active in the German capital markets through its Frankfurt subsidiary.

But for the most part, the capital markets have proven to be a much tougher nut to crack than the seemingly softer syndicated-loan market, which mostly required a lot of travel and a tele machine.

For one, has there ever been much of a corporate and institutional base in the Arab world to underpin a push into securities underwriting or fund management? For another, Arab surplus capital, never really flowed through the international capital markets, but to the Swiss banks and private banking units of American banks.

The great trading families such as Kuwait's al-Chaima, or recently created corporate entities such as Saudi Arabia's Olayan Group, have traditionally been the most flush with surplus capital, but they have also been more conservative in their investments and more often than not, have more savvy and sophisticated investment managers working for them than most of the banks could ever hope to offer.

Furthermore, the mostly family-run corporate and trading companies are now the sort of fertile ground for mergers activities.

"The Arab banks, for the most part, cannot get into the center of things, but they can make it on the edges and hope to build up, say, some sort of niche specialty in London," said Mr. Habib of Capital Intelligence.

Perhaps where the Arab banks will continue to focus much of their management skills is in the more mundane internal reorganization. Cutting costs and overheads, building internal controls and credit assessment and control policies, and never really flowered through the international capital markets, but to the Swiss banks and private banking units of American banks.

services such as loan workouts, "preventive rescheduling," or information services and analysis for corporate clients on cash flow projections are not the stuff headlines are made of.

Perhaps the one notable trend among the commercial banks this year has been the tendency to sharply tighten up their loan review policies and demand greater security on their loans, and thus reduce the proportion of loans that are nonperforming.

There is also a generation of 25- to 30-year-old Arab bankers coming into the system, who fortunately, just missed the gray train, and thus lack the pretensions and fear of hard work, the expectations of fat salaries and rapid rise to the top that their older brothers may have had.

New markets will also eventually emerge in the region, creating opportunities for the institutions that are prepared. Eventually governments will effectively overcome or at least neutralize cultural resistance to borrowing, and begin to tap a domestic and regional capital market, and by doing so, help create and deepen one. To date, only Oman has borrowed and it has

turned to the Eurobond market rather than through issuing government debt.

Likewise, the governments will eventually ease out of heavily subsidizing housing, leaving it entirely to the private sector. Home mortgages will eventually come to the Gulf, and a younger generation of Arab newbies will discover the realities of monthly mortgage payments like the rest of the world.

Despite the withdrawal by scores of international banks in Bahrain, the region is not a total credit risk write-off. "Maybe 10 countries go wrong in Saudi Arabia," says one British banker in Bahrain. "But as a percentage of the whole country that is quite small. You can't just go and write off the whole country."

But there is, nevertheless, a fundamental structural problem obscuring the further development of the region's, and particularly Saudi Arabia's, banking system. A legal system for recourse on repayment disputes must be established, banks and borrowers both stress, and government officials concede.

Lending in the kingdom, for one, has virtually ground to a halt. Due both to the absence of viable lend-

ing opportunities, but exacerbated by the deterioration in commercial ethics and the lack of recourse in event of default, the consolidated lending of the dozen commercial banks rose barely 1 percent last year, the smallest increase in several decades. Saudi Arabia, for instance, ran down its loan portfolio by 12 percent in 1985.

The Saudi central bank, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, made its first efforts after years of pleas of frustration from the banking community to do something to resolve the dilemma. Future loans will include a clause binding a borrower to go before SAMA's recently created arbitration board in a dispute over repayment of debt, hopefully defusing the sensitivity of the "religious question" by steering disputes away from the Shariah courts, whose judges tend to hold little regard for the banks.

But ultimately, the problem of retooling a Western-style banking system to the religious core of Saudi society is beyond the scope of either SAMA or the Ministry of Finance and lies with the very highest echelons of power in Riyadh, which to date, has not been forthcoming.

	Assets	Liabilities	Reserves
	million	million	million
1. Arab Banking Corp., Morocco	\$13.0	\$5.1	\$109
2. Riyad Bank, Jeddah**	\$ 8.7	\$2.9	\$50.5
3. Banque du Credit & Commerce			
4. National Commercial Bank, Jeddah**	\$16.6	\$6.8	\$59(+)
5. Gulf International Bank, Morocco	\$15.1	\$5.7	\$27
6. National Bank of Kuwait	\$ 7.8	\$4.2	\$67
7. ABUAF, Paris	\$11.5	\$4.9	n.a.
8. Arab Bank, Amman	\$13.5	\$2.7	\$75
9. National Bank of Abu Dhabi	\$ 5.6	\$2.8	\$ 3.4
10. Saudi International Bank*	\$ 4.4	\$1.8	\$14

\*Source: Annual reports and Capital Intelligence.  
\*\*Arabic monthly annual.  
\*\*\*Calendar year ending September 1986.  
\*\*\*\*Calendar year ending March 1986.  
\*\*\*\*\*After other \$10 million "shareholder subscription" due to option trading losses.  
Without inflation, and has for year of \$51 million.

Food and Beverages  
Ice Soft drinks  
Poultry meat: Eggs  
Dairy products  
Cooked meat products

Chemical Products  
Household paints  
Marine paints  
Reinforced glass fibre  
Woven polypropylene sacks  
Detergents: Melamine crystals  
Foam blocks  
Plastics packaging

Construction  
Materials: Glass  
Insulation  
Pre-fabricated concrete  
Pre-engineered buildings  
Reinforcing steel  
Terrazzo tiling  
Ceramic ware

Metal Products & Engineering  
Aluminum extrusions  
Vehicle bodies  
Electrical equipment  
Air conditioning units  
Water coolers: Metal cans  
Ship repairing

Miscellaneous  
Baby bottles  
Overs  
Pressure boats  
Office furniture  
Domestic furniture  
Stationery  
Exercise books  
Paper packaging  
Oilfield maintenance

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# International Bond Prices

(Continued)

Country	Security	Yield	Price	Change
SOUTH AMERICA	Brazil 1990	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1991	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1992	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1993	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1994	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1995	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1996	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1997	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1998	12.50	102.00	+0.25
	Brazil 1999	12.50	102.00	+0.25
SPAIN	Spain 1990	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1991	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1992	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1993	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1994	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1995	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1996	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1997	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1998	10.00	102.00	+0.25
	Spain 1999	10.00	102.00	+0.25
SUPRANATIONAL	World Bank 1990	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1991	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1992	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1993	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1994	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1995	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1996	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1997	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1998	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	World Bank 1999	8.00	102.00	+0.25

Country	Security	Yield	Price	Change
EUROBONDS	Germany 1990	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1991	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1992	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1993	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1994	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1995	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1996	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1997	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1998	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Germany 1999	8.00	102.00	+0.25

Country	Security	Yield	Price	Change
JAPANESE YEN (EURO)	Japan 1990	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1991	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1992	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1993	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1994	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1995	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1996	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1997	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1998	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Japan 1999	8.00	102.00	+0.25

Country	Security	Yield	Price	Change
CANADIAN DOLLARS	Canada 1990	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1991	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1992	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1993	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1994	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1995	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1996	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1997	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1998	8.00	102.00	+0.25
	Canada 1999	8.00	102.00	+0.25

**EUROBONDS**  
The sale of Fiat shares criticized by Bank  
By CARL GEWIRTZ  
From New York Times Tribune

The announcement of the sale of Fiat shares by the Italian government has been criticized by the Bank of Italy. The bank's president, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, said that the sale of shares in a company that is not a public utility or a company of strategic importance is not in the interest of the country. He also said that the sale of shares in a company that is not a public utility or a company of strategic importance is not in the interest of the country.

## NASDAQ National List

OTC consolidated trading for week ended Friday.

Symbol	Price	Change
AAVE	1.12	+0.01
AB	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
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ABT	1.12	+0.01

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AAVE	1.12	+0.01
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AAVE	1.12	+0.01
AB	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
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Symbol	Price	Change
AAVE	1.12	+0.01
AB	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
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ABT	1.12	+0.01

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AAVE	1.12	+0.01
AB	1.12	+0.01
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ABT	1.12	+0.01

Symbol	Price	Change
AAVE	1.12	+0.01
AB	1.12	+0.01
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ABT	1.12	+0.01

Symbol	Price	Change
AAVE	1.12	+0.01
AB	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
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ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01

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**The Daily Source for International Investors.**

*Herold Tribune*

**HIGHEST CURRENT YIELDS**  
On convertibles having a conversion premium of less than 10%.

Symbol	Price	Yield
AAVE	1.12	+0.01
AB	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01
ABT	1.12	+0.01

**Currency Rates**

Country	Rate
USA	1.00
Canada	0.75
UK	0.60
France	0.50
Germany	0.40
Japan	0.30
Italy	0.20
Spain	0.10
Sweden	0.05
Switzerland	0.02
Norway	0.01
Denmark	0.005
Netherlands	0.002
Belgium	0.001
Austria	0.0005
Portugal	0.0002
Greece	0.0001
Finland	0.00005
Ireland	0.00002
Portugal	0.00001
Greece	0.000005
Finland	0.000002
Ireland	0.000001





OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday

[illegible]

Figures as of close of trading Friday

[illegible]

Figures as of close of trading Friday

<b>NEW YORK (AP)—</b>	<b>'8d</b>
The following auto-	
mons, supplied by the	
National Association of	
Securities Dealers,	
Inc., are the prices at which these	
securities could have been sold [Net Asset Value] or bought	
(value plus sales charge) Friday.	
<b>Bid Ask</b>	
<b>Berger Group:</b>	
109	53.36
101	53.83
BankGr	8.31
<b>Boston Co:</b>	
Cornell	75.33
GNUMA	72.25
AadI	11.88
S&PUS	28.37
<b>Bowser</b>	
Grady	2.65
Grady	107.15
Bull & Bear Gr	
CoNGO	54.64
Eashty	71.38
Golden	73.88

[illegible][illegible]

**US: Sale of**

Some of the savings that more than 10 million Americans will be able to realize by the sale of consumer goods, such as cars, is being made possible by the new tax law. The new law allows a 10% credit for the sale of cars, and a 5% credit for the sale of other consumer goods. The new law also allows a 10% credit for the sale of cars, and a 5% credit for the sale of other consumer goods. The new law also allows a 10% credit for the sale of cars, and a 5% credit for the sale of other consumer goods.





OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday.

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Figures as of close of trading Friday.

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## Economists Draft Latin Growth Plan

By Barnaby J. Feder  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Economists in Washington, Mexico City and Rio de Janeiro have drafted an ambitious blueprint for renewed economic growth in Latin America, that calls for \$20 billion annually in capital commitments from the United States and other industrial nations over the next several years. The amount is far more than that proposed by the U.S. Treasury secretary, James A. Baker 3d, at the annual meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in Seoul last October. Mr. Baker called for new investments of \$29 billion over three years to spur growth in 15 major debtor nations, 10 of them in Latin America.

"To the extent that interest in the Baker plan has been flagging, this could stimulate it," said C. Fred Bergsten, director of the Institute for International Economics, which managed the yearlong study with two of Baker's lieutenants.

ing economic research organizations, El Colegio de México and the Fundación Getulio Vargas.

The bulk of the report, "Toward Renewed Economic Growth in Latin America," focuses on needed reforms. It urges Latin American countries to adopt policies that will increase exports, stimulate savings and capital investment from overseas, reduce red tape and cut back on state ownership of businesses while improving education and other services.

These reform policies are gaining acceptance, but specific measures to carry them out have been halting and, in cases such as Peru, have even been repudiated.

Mr. Bergsten said the recent agreement at Punta del Este, Uruguay, on an agenda for a new round of talks aimed at reducing barriers to international trade could encourage some Latin American countries to move more aggressively along the lines proposed.

But the report said the Latin American countries needed far

## Deng Urges Quadrupling Of Japan Trade With China

BEIJING — The Chinese leader, Deng Xiaoping, has called for a quadrupling of China's share in Japanese trade, according to Xinhua news agency.

Mr. Deng said Saturday that China would benefit and Japan would not be harmed if 25 percent of Japan's trade were with China, compared with 6.2 percent last year.

Mr. Deng told a Japanese delegation from the Japan-China Association on Economy and Trade that Japan and China relied on each other and this reliance might become more pronounced over the next century.

He described as unfounded fears that China would become Japan's major competitor after his country became better developed.

In the long run, Mr. Deng said, Japan needed another big trading partner, and the obvious choice was China because of its close proximity to its smaller neighbor.

He urged Japan to cooperate with China on various levels, adding that the growth of bilateral economic ties would help to develop political relations.

Japan had a \$17.7-billion trade surplus with China in the first half of this year, down from \$2.8 billion in the 1985 period, Japan's Finance Ministry said. The trade deficit with Japan was about \$1.25 billion in 1984 and \$5 billion last year.

Japanese exports to China fell 23.5 percent to \$4.6 billion in the first half of 1986 from the 1985 half, while imports from China fell 9 percent to \$2.9 billion.

China said last October that it would not tolerate a third consecutive year of trade deficit with Japan in 1986 and called on Japan to import more Chinese goods and invest more in China.

## IMF Scales Down Growth Estimates

WASHINGTON — World economic activity will be slower than expected this year and next as the U.S. trade and budget deficits continue to expand and the developing world remains weighed down by large debt obligations, the International Monetary Fund forecast Sunday.

In a report opening the IMF's annual conference in Washington, the fund's economists revised downward estimates of world economic growth to 2.8 percent this year, with a slight acceleration to 3.1 percent growth in 1987.

Citing "disappointing" results so far this year, the fund revised to 2.75 percent from 3 percent its estimate of growth in the industrialized world in 1986, with 3 percent growth forecast for 1987.

Developing countries will record growth of only 2.7 percent this year and 2.9 percent in 1987. Declining export earnings resulting from lower commodity prices and a strong contraction in world trade have increased these nations' debt burdens, the fund said.

These burdens have been partly relieved by lower interest rates, which have aided developing countries to service their debt, the economists said.

The IMF stressed the importance of reducing budget deficits in industrialized countries, especially in the United States, for there to be any durable growth in the world economy.

"The budgetary situation in the United States remains of crucial importance for the short-term prospects not only of the United States but of the world economy as a whole," the report said.

It is not until 1987 and beyond, according to the report, that the fall in the dollar initiated at the end of 1985 will have any effect on the U.S. trade deficit and thus on world economic activity.

The realignment of exchange rates will not be sufficient by itself to restore a fully viable pattern of

payments in the United States, West Germany and Japan, the economists contended.

The IMF also rejected as potential solutions measures to stimulate the West German and Japanese economies, which have been called for by Washington to counter Japan's and West Germany's large trade surpluses.

"It is unlikely that a one-percent-age-point increase in domestic growth in Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany [over a three-year period] would alter the U.S. trade balance by more than \$5 to \$10 billion," the IMF said.

The poor growth prospects in the Third World must be seen as a clear setback, according to the report. It is obvious that the IMF and other members of the international community will have to continue individual aid to a number of developing countries, the economists said.

In spite of last year's so-called Baker initiative, named after U.S. Treasury Secretary James A. Baker 3d, to increase state and private credits to the 15 most indebted nations, commercial banks will continue to be cautious on loans to the Third World, the IMF predicted.

## COMPUTE: Honeywell Gives Up

(Continued from first finance page)

analysts said, would probably accrue to NEC, which manufactures Honeywell's top-of-the-line mainframes. The Japanese company has not had an effective marketing outlet in the United States.

Ball, which makes Honeywell's DPS 7 minicomputer, is in a more precarious financial state. It is recovering from several years of losses in Europe, its main market, and is scheduled to be sold to the private sector by the French government in the next several years.

Some analysts doubt that it is prepared to make a large commitment in an agreement with Honeywell.

Honeywell's retreat from computers comes nearly three decades after its technology was briefly considered among the industry's hottest. In the early 1960s, it decided to go head-to-head with IBM, and succeeded in selling machines to a number of commercial customers and to federal agencies, particularly the Pentagon.

With the acquisition of GE's computer division in 1970, Honeywell hoped for a breakthrough. But the strategy failed. By the early 1980s, many of Honeywell's biggest customers were defecting to

IBM for access to more computer power and more software.

In recent years, Honeywell's chairman, Edgar W. Snodgrass, and his second-in-command, James J. Renier, used a different tack: integrating the computer operations with Honeywell's thriving aerospace and military businesses and its controls business, where it is the market leader.

On Sept. 19, Honeywell announced that it was negotiating to buy Sperry's aerospace business. A Honeywell spokesman said last week that those negotiations were unaffected by the latest developments.

## Europe Computer Firms Seek Compatibility

BRUSSELS — Seven leading European computer groups have decided to work together to achieve compatibility of their respective systems, industrial sources say.

The groups involved are Siemens AG and Nixdorf AG of West Germany, Olivetti SpA and STET of Italy, Cie des Machines Bull and Thomson-CSF of France and ICL PLC of Britain.

## NASDAQ National Market

OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday.

Symbol	High	Low	Close	Change
IBM	118 1/2	117 1/2	118 1/2	+1/2
AT&T	54 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2	0
GE	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2	0
Westinghouse	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	0
Rockwell	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
Boeing	114 1/2	114 1/2	114 1/2	0
McDonnell Douglas	44 1/2	44 1/2	44 1/2	0
Lockheed	54 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2	0
Northrop	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	0
Grumman	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
Raytheon	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	0
Hughes	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
General Dynamics	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	0
Boeing	114 1/2	114 1/2	114 1/2	0
McDonnell Douglas	44 1/2	44 1/2	44 1/2	0
Lockheed	54 1/2	54 1/2	54 1/2	0
Northrop	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	0
Grumman	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
Raytheon	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	0
Hughes	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
General Dynamics	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	0

## Press Cites Waste in Vietnam

HANOI — Low return on investment, poor quality goods and continuing corruption have led to massive waste of Vietnam's scarce financial resources, according to reports in the official press here.

Foreign aid has been squandered on unprofitable industrial investment spread thinly across too many projects, the Communist Party's theoretical paper Chi Cong Son said in its latest issue Sunday.

Industrial production grew at an average rate of 9.5 percent a year from 1981 to 1985, the journal said, but half of the goals of the five-year plan were not met. Moreover, the

worst results were registered in key sectors of the economy, notably food, coal, cement, electricity and exports, it said.

The journal also attributed the low return on industrial investment to slow building activity and "unmerciful" uncompleted facilities.

Factories were often forced to contend with shortages of energy and raw materials as well as labor and transport problems, it added.

According to official statistics, the building of new plants, mostly to produce energy, account for 75 percent of industrial investment and only 14 percent of investment is directed at modernizing equipment.

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